Hoffman Defies Winchell, Quotes Self Before House

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Rep. Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.) repeated in the House yesterday his recent call for a "march on Washington" and the use of armed forces if necessary to "put an end to 'playing at war' here at home."

After a similar statement by Hoffman in a recent speech at Niles, Mich., Walter Winchell called upon the House to expel him and the Justice Dept. to prosecute him under the Espionage Act. Replying to Winchell, Hoffman told the House yesterday:

"Winchell says that, because Hitler would like to march on Washington, I am a Hitlerite. Hitler would march on Washington to overthrow our Government. I would have loyal citizens march on Washington to restore the Government to the people; to meet their Congressmen and their Senators—yes, and a few bureaucrats—face to face, and tell them in no uncertain terms that the people are tired of having those who do not believe in the Constitution—in the American way of life—in policy-making positions in the Federal Government, on the Federal pay roll.

"As for the suggestion that the armed forces here at home be used, if necessary, to end interference with the war effort, I might note that the President himself, on Dec. 27, ordered the Army to take possession of the railroads.

"I might call attention to the fact that we have a Federal statute which not only empowers, but directs that the President use the armed forces of the Nation and of the states to maintain order, prevent riots which interfere with production.

"I stand on what I said. I repeat it."

The statement which Hoffman said he was repeating from the Niles speech was:

"The day is here when the American people, by a march on Washington, by the use of the armed forces which are in this country, must, if either be necessary, put an end to 'playing at war' here at home. Common decency requires that we either get into this war wholeheartedly and with singleness of purpose or get out of it."